Lovely Strange Dark
GAKUSOU
"FRAMED PAINTING"
BY TSURIMAKI NODOKA
ONESHOT
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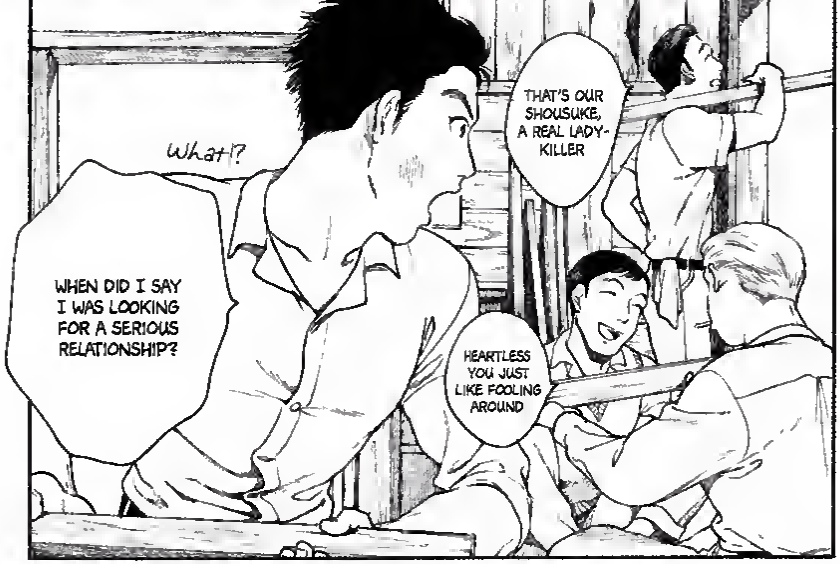
ハジけた妄想、ぶつけてね♥
新人賞　スーパーキャラクターコミック大賞
詳細はこちら　http://itan.jp/

Gakusou
額
"Framed Painting"
The feelings that spring from a chance meeting——
装
Tsurimaki Nodoka
釣巻 和
コミックス『のの湯』第2巻
(少年チャンピオン・コミックス・タップ!)
好評発売中!
人間の心の重力を描く実力派作家、ITAN待望初登場!!!

WHAT'S THAT I HEAR?
YOU GOT DUMPED AGAIN, SHOUSUKE?
...LOOK!
ALL I DID WAS TELL HER I'M DATING HER BECAUSE SHE'S PRETTY SHE'S A PRETTY GIRL!


What!?
WHEN DID I SAY I WAS LOOKING FOR A SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP?
THAT'S OUR SHOUSUKE, A REAL LADY-KILLER
HEARTLESS YOU JUST LIKE FOOLING AROUND

SIGN: OKIDA FRAMERY

Our job as craftsmen

Is to give those paintings the frame that will be with them forever.

but it was originally a small shop that sold paintings—

The last company head opened a frame shop, and more and more clients came for that.

Framing artists paintings turned into the new line of work.

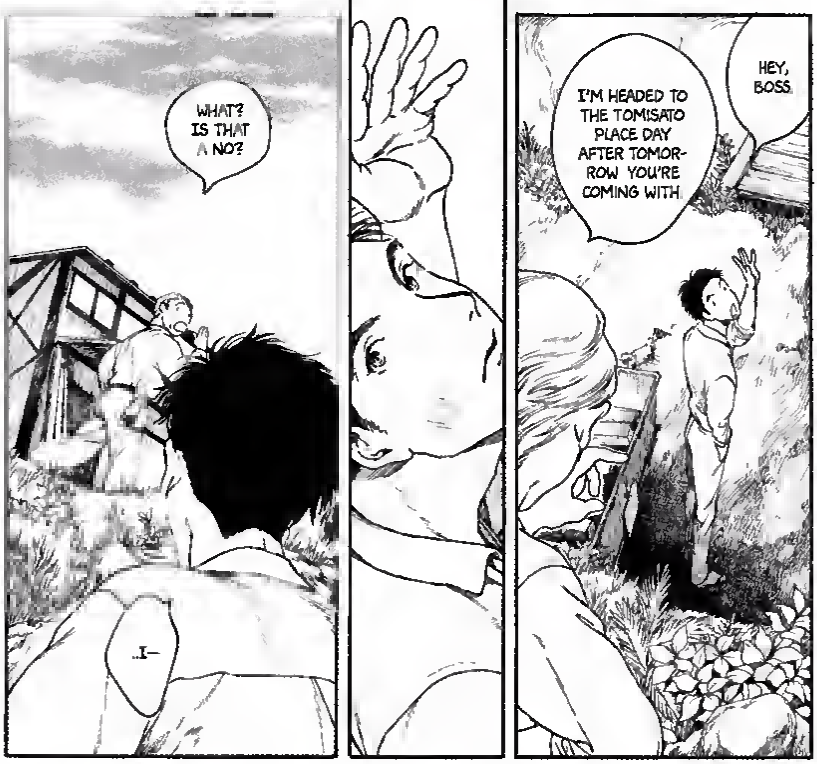
EXCUSE ME.
I'M TOMISATO TAMAYU.
TOMISATO... OH! FROM MASTER JUAN'S HOUSE!
Come on in! It's been some time
WHAT PAINTING DO YOU NEED FRAMED?
DO YOU WANT TO COME IN?
NO, I'M FINE HERE.
I CAME TODAY TO GIVE YOU THE NEWS,
AND... MAKE A REQUEST OF YOU ALL.
OH? WHAT IS IT...?

TOMISATO JUAN
SUDDENLY PASSED AWAY LAST WEEK.
THAT'S RIGHT,
I HADN'T HEARD OF ANY NEW WORKS BY HIM FOR A FEW YEARS NOW...
YEAH...
I HEARD HE WAS BEDRIDDEN.
SO THE WAKE AND FUNERAL WILL BE FAMILY MEMBERS ONLY...
DOESN'T THAT SEEM... A LITTLE BLEAK?

Tomisato Juan
He began painting late in life, just for the last 10-20 years after WWII ended
He favored our company's frames.
"While it may be presumptuous of me to arrange things on his behalf,"
"I want to have a memorial exhibit—"
"I would like to work with you, Mr. Okida as he always did."
SHOU-SUKE!
HEEEEY, SHOUSUKE! LUNCH!
GEEZ, LEAVE 'IM ALONE. HE ISN'T LISTENING.
HE WAS A FAN OF MASTER JUAN
oh, really?
HE'S MORE UPSET OVER THIS THAN HIS GIRL TROUBLES.

FORGET THAT. YOU PASSED A GORGEOUS GIRL ON THE WAY HERE, RIGHT?
I HEARD YOU GOT DUMPED THAT IT?
WHAT'RE YOU SO DOWN ABOUT?
HEYA, SHOU.
JINGLE
JINGLE
DAUGHTER?
HOLD IT.
Wait
YEAH ...
I HEARD THE OLD MAN DIED THAT TRUE?
SHE'S REALLY TURNED INTO SOMETHING
YEAH! MASTER JUAN'S DAUGHTER, RIGHT?
DON'T BE STUPID
LOOK AT THAT AGE GAP. SHE'S HIS DAUGHTER, GET IT?
NO WAY HE GOT MARRIED
HUH?
THEN ISN'T SHE HIS WIFE!?
TRUE, I'VE SAID HI TO HER BEFORE... WAIT,
YEAH, SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN LIVING WITH HIM.

I HEARD
SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF ONE OF HIS STUDENTS
THOUGH SHE'S NOT RELATED TO HIM AT ALL.
THEY DON'T LOOK ALIKE. Right?
WAIT A SEC...
Don't ask me.
WELL, IT'S LIKE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.
I BET THE SHINING PRINCE HIMSELF COULDN'T...
THINK ABOUT WHO YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
THE STUDENT DIED IN THE WAR, AND HE ADOPTED HER
REALLY? FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT.
SHE REALLY IS GORGEOUS... YOU KNOW,
LIKE YOU'D REMEMBER IF YOU HAD! BUT WELL—
HEY, SHOU-SUKE!
Geez, what's with you?


WHAT? IS THAT A NO?
...I—
I'M HEADED TO THE TOMISATO PLACE DAY AFTER TOMORROW. YOU'RE COMING WITH.
HEY, BOSS.

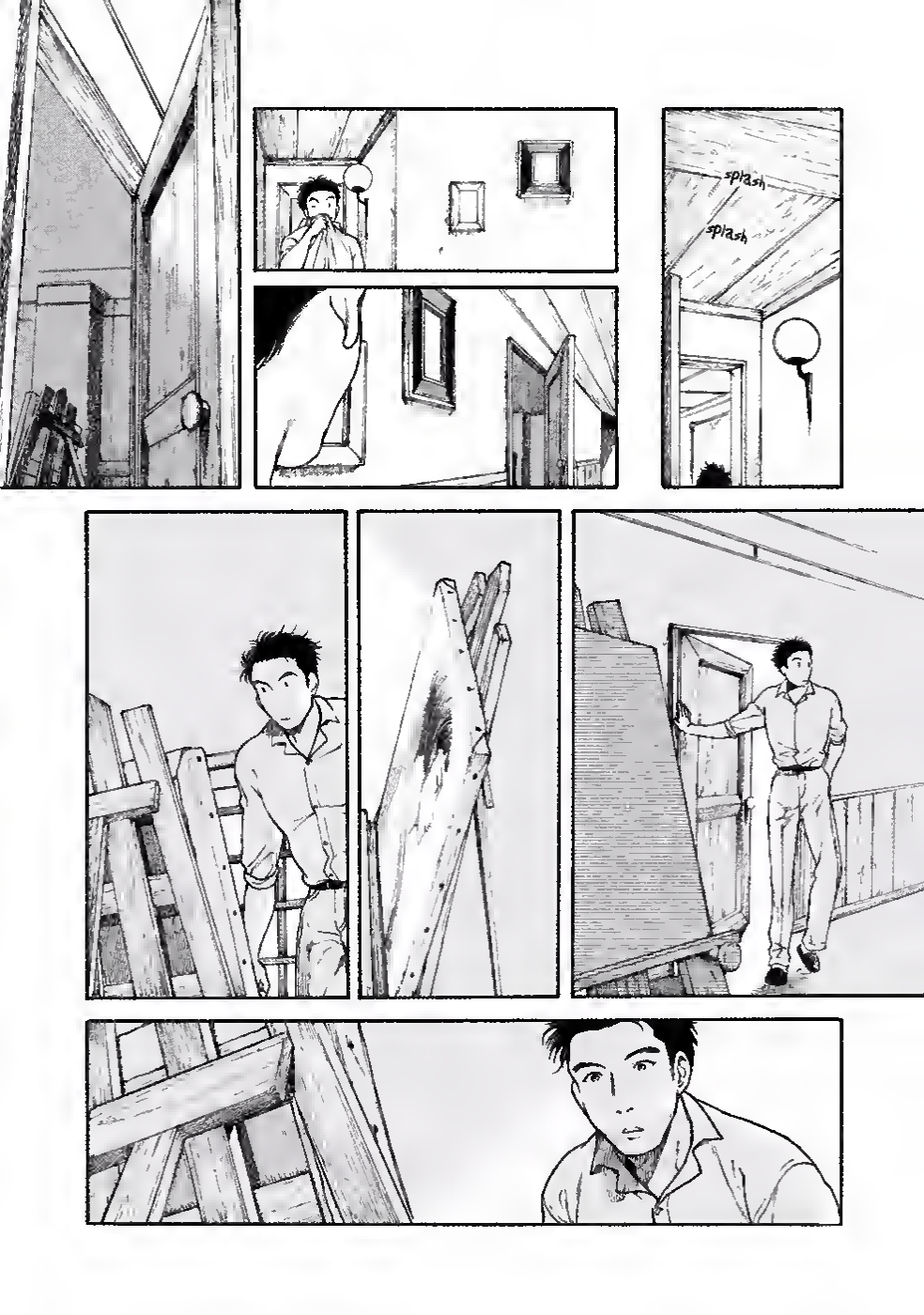
I'LL GO!

Where do you want to start?
Hmm.
All for two people? Really?
THANK YOU FOR COMING OUT.
THIS PLACE IS HUGE.
HUH?
WAIT, WHAT? ISN'T IT DIFFERENT?
THERE SHE IS.
LOOK AT HER TODAY SHE'S... LESS SOPHISTI-CATED. YOUNGER, Y'KNOW?
WHAT MOOD?
..THE MOOD.
Mood?
OH— YOU MEAN MISS TAMAYU? LISTEN, YOU.

SHE LOOKS SO FRAGILE...
FOR ALL YOUR FOOLING AROUND, YOU SURE DON'T LEARN.
CHANGE THE MAKE-UP, CLOTHES, WHATEVER, AND THE WHOLE GIRL CHANGES.
Kreeee
FROM WHAT I SEE HERE, YOUR ORDER WITH US SHOULD ABOUT COVER THE PICTURES.
WE CAN WORK WITH THIS.
BUT TO THINK HE HAD SO MANY PAINTINGS ABOVE AND BEYOND THE ONES HE SOLD...

think
slide
YES, THERE ARE ALSO ONES FROM BEFORE... WHEN HE USED AN ALIAS.
THAT'S RIGHT, MASTER JUAN'S WORKS BECAME PARTICULARLY LOVELY AFTER HE DROPPED THE ALIAS.
THEY SOLD RIGHT AWAY, AND THEN THE ART DEALERS...
PEOPLE EVEN JOKED THAT HE DIED AND CAME BACK TO LIFE.
THAT'S HOW DIFFERENT THE ART WAS

COULDN'T EVEN HOLD A PAINTBRUSH IN THE END...
I HEARD THERE WAS A DOCTOR LOOKING AFTER HIM THESE PAST THREE YEARS
RUMOR IS THAT HE WAS UNWELL THE WHOLE TIME.
..HEY, WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME WE FRAMED ONE OF HIS WORKS?
HM... MAYBE THREE YEARS AGO?
HE HAD THAT SOLO EXHIBIT IN KANDA'S GALLERY, REMEMBER?
into just one room?
They're all packed
HIS LIFE'S WORK...
...CRAP. THIS KIND OF HURTS.
How embarrassing—
GOTTA WASH MY FACE.
SNIFF


splash
splash

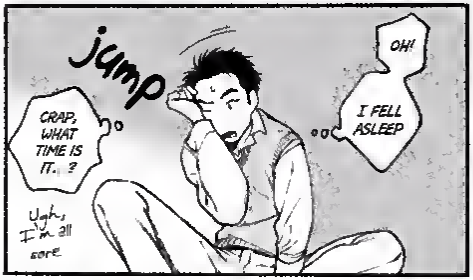
DO YOU LIKE IT?
HE WAS WORKING ON THIS WHEN HE PASSED
JUST PRIVATE WORKS...
THESE PAST THREE YEARS, JUAN DIDN'T PAINT ANY-THING TO EXHIBIT
SORRY FOR INTRUD-ING...
—A FRAME...

WON'T YOU
FRAME THIS PICTURE?
NO.
THIS PAINTING IS...
IS IT BECAUSE IT'S UNFINISHED?
.....WOULD YOU MAKE ONE FOR IT?

YOU'LL DO FINE.
I'M STILL AN APPRENTICE...
I CAN'T!
WHY ME?
BE-CAUSE ...
YOU PRAYED FOR HIM.
blush
SHOW ME
WHAT KIND OF FRAME A TRUE CRAFTSMAN CAN MAKE FOR THIS PAINTING.

I
WILL.

SIGN: OKIDA FRAMERY
Ah..
peep
peeeep


jump
CRAP, WHAT TIME IS IT..?
Ugh, I'm all sore
OH!
I FELL ASLEEP

PHEW, NOT EVEN SIX YET ..

I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A WORKSHOP BEFORE.
Hm?
WAH!
HUH?
UMM, MISS...
JUST TAMAYU IS FINE.
Wow, your hair's a real mess
THE DOOR WAS OPEN. ISN'T THAT LOCK BROKEN?
YOUR BOSS TOLD ME YOU'VE BEEN WORKING DAY AND NIGHT.
HUNGRY? I'VE GOT RICE BALLS
I KNEW IT.
YOU'RE MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN THAT PAINTING

OH! THAT'S NOT TO SAY ANYTHING BAD ABOUT HIS PAINTING, THOUGH.
ME? 19. HOW ABOUT YOU?
I'M OLDER THAN YOU ARE.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
OH YEAH. I HEARD THAT YOU'RE ALSO ADOPTED?
I am too
MY PARENTS DIED IN AN AIR RAID IN TOKYO
I was too young to remember her
THE NEIGHBORS FOUND ME AND KEPT ME FED FOR A WHILE.
THE BOSS IS A DISTANT RELATIVE, SO HE TOOK ME IN.
THOUGH HE'LL SAY IT'S BECAUSE HE HAD NO KIDS.
Oh, it's salmon.

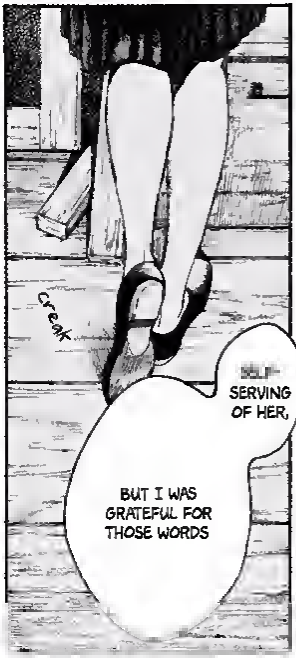
THEY MUST REALLY LOVE YOU.
I WAS SO THIN
THAT THEY CRIED WHEN THEY PICKED ME UP AND FELT HOW LIGHT I WAS
MOM'LL BRING THAT UP EVEN NOW.
I GUESS?
TO BE HONEST, I DON'T UNDERSTAND MUCH ABOUT LOVE.
REALLY? BUT I HEAR YOU'RE POPULAR WITH THE LADIES.
BUT WANTING TO SLEEP WITH GIRLS IS LUST, NOT LOVE.
...YOU'RE BLUNT.
IS THAT A COMPLIMENT?
SO, TELL ME YOUR STORY

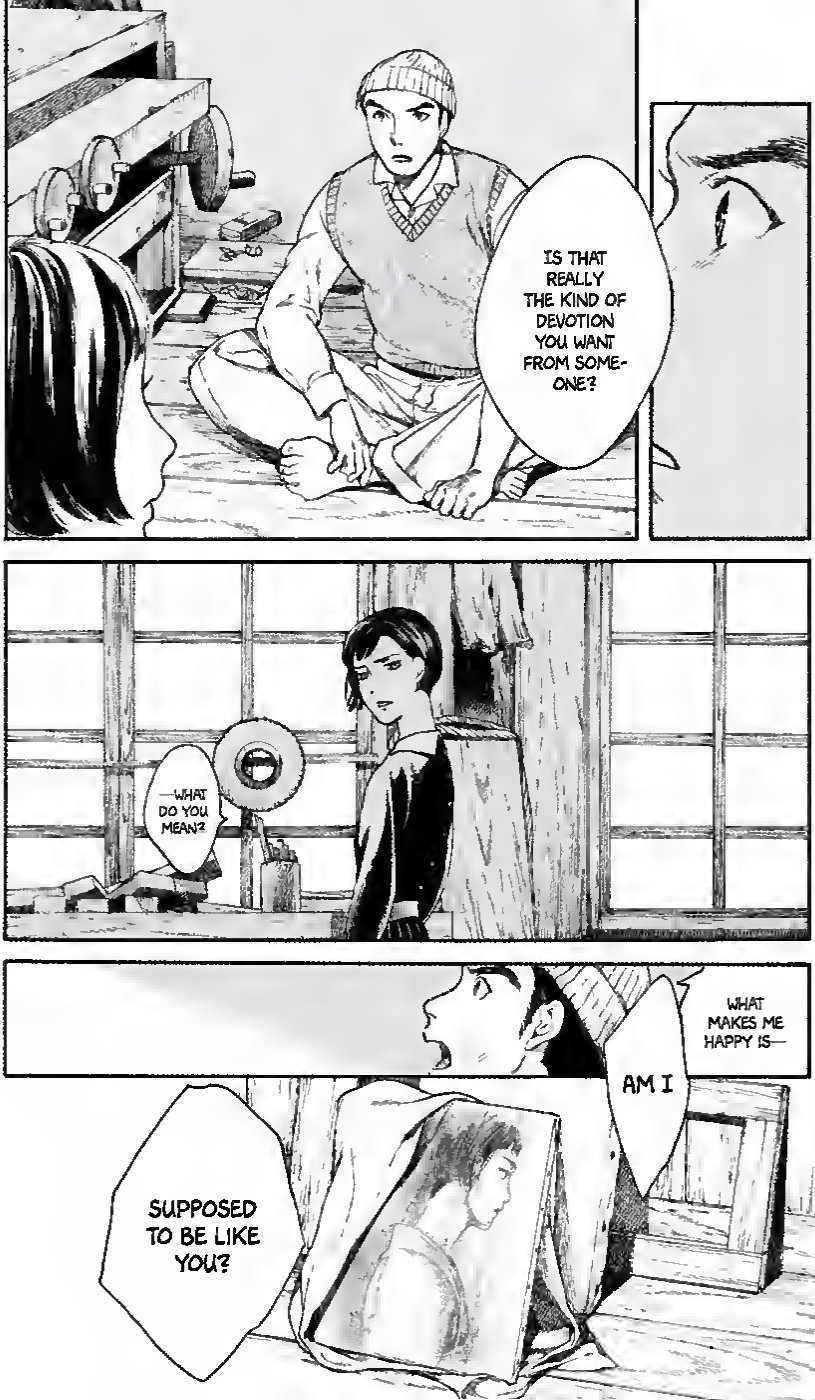
was Juan's student
—Though back then, Juan was using the name Tomisato Yukio.
But then the war went bad and he was conscripted and couldn't paint
Tamayu was born and her father's work began to sell on its own merits—
Tamayu's father
YOU WANT TO KNOW?
SO AFTER OUR HOUSE BURNED DOWN, THERE WAS ONLY ONE PLACE MY MOM COULD COUNT ON FOR HELP—
MY RELATIVES PRETTY MUCH ALL DIED IN THE TOKYO AIR RAIDS, OR WE COULDN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH THEM.
.....SO SHE WAS THINKING ABOUT WHAT WAS BEST FOR YOU?
THERE'S THAT.
BUT WELL,
THEY WOULDN'T TAKE ME IN TOO
HAHA

USUALLY FOLKS DON'T LIKE LISTENING TO STUFF LIKE THIS, BUT YOU'RE GOOD AT IT
I am?
DO YOU RESENT HER FOR IT?
BUT I FIGURE SHE WAS ALSO
JUST WORN OUT.
BUT, TRUTHFULLY? I'M MOSTLY GRATEFUL
THAT SHE ABANDONED ME.
WHY...?
I'M NOT SURE?

SHE WAS A SIMPLE WOMAN
ALL SMILES WHEN SHE WAS IN A GOOD MOOD, BUT SHE'D LASH OUT WHEN I MISBEHAVED.
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW MANY TIMES SHE HIT ME.
—BUT SHE'D APOLOGIZE EVERY TIME.

IT MAKES ME HAPPY WHEN I THINK BACK TO HOW SHE'D SHOW THAT SIDE OF HERSELF
JUST TO ME.

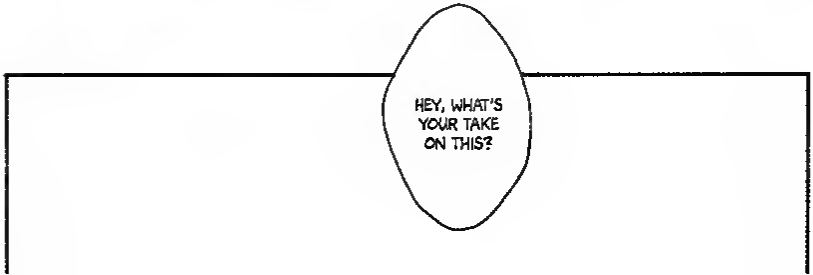

CREAK
SELF-
SERVING OF HER,
BUT I WAS GRATEFUL FOR THOSE WORDS


IS THAT REALLY THE KIND OF DEVOTION YOU WANT FROM SOMEONE?
—WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY IS—
AM I SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE YOU?

But if she's happy
I couldn't see it.
then why does she look like that in the painting?

Café
WELCOME BACK, SHOU! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE.
COME BY MORE OFTEN.
OH!
Hmm
I DON'T GET IT.
HEY, IF YOU LIKE A GIRL...
WH-WHAT?
"Ee?"
stare
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SUMI, IT'S NOT HER SHIFT..
OH!
DIDN'T I HEAR THEY BROKE UP?
LIKE, "MY GIRL'S THE CUTEST ONE OUT THERE".
SHE LOOKS REALLY CUTE IN YOUR EYES, RIGHT?
THEN USU-ALLY

WELL... I SUPPOSE OUR BOYFRIENDS DO LOOK HANDSOME TO US
Yeah
WHAT'S THAT?
A photo?
SHE ISN'T WEARING ANY MAKE-UP.
OR, DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT.
WELL, YEAH...
WHY THE PHOTO? IS IT WORK?
SHE'S REALLY PRETTY. A MODEL?
Huh, amazing!
BUT, HMM...
OH, IT'S A GIRL... A PAINTING OF ONE.
IF I WERE GETTING MY PORTRAIT DONE, I'D GET MYSELF DOLLED UP FIRST. ♡
CLATTER
Huh?
SHOU, ARE YOU LEAVING!?
Rattle


HEY, WHAT'S YOUR TAKE ON THIS?

IT'S MASTER JUAN'S DAUGHTER.
Blocking the road
I KNOW THAT!!
HEY~ I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF WORK!
MY TAKE?
LISTEN, IF YOU WERE DOING A PORTRAIT OF A GIRL YOU LOVE, WOULDN'T YOU MAKE HER LOOK PRETTIER THAN THIS?
OR IF YOU HAD A CUTE DAUGHTER,
WOULD YOU DRAW HER WEARING THIS EXPRESSION?
...SO,
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO KNOW.
Actually
You can't see their relation-ship in it.
OH.

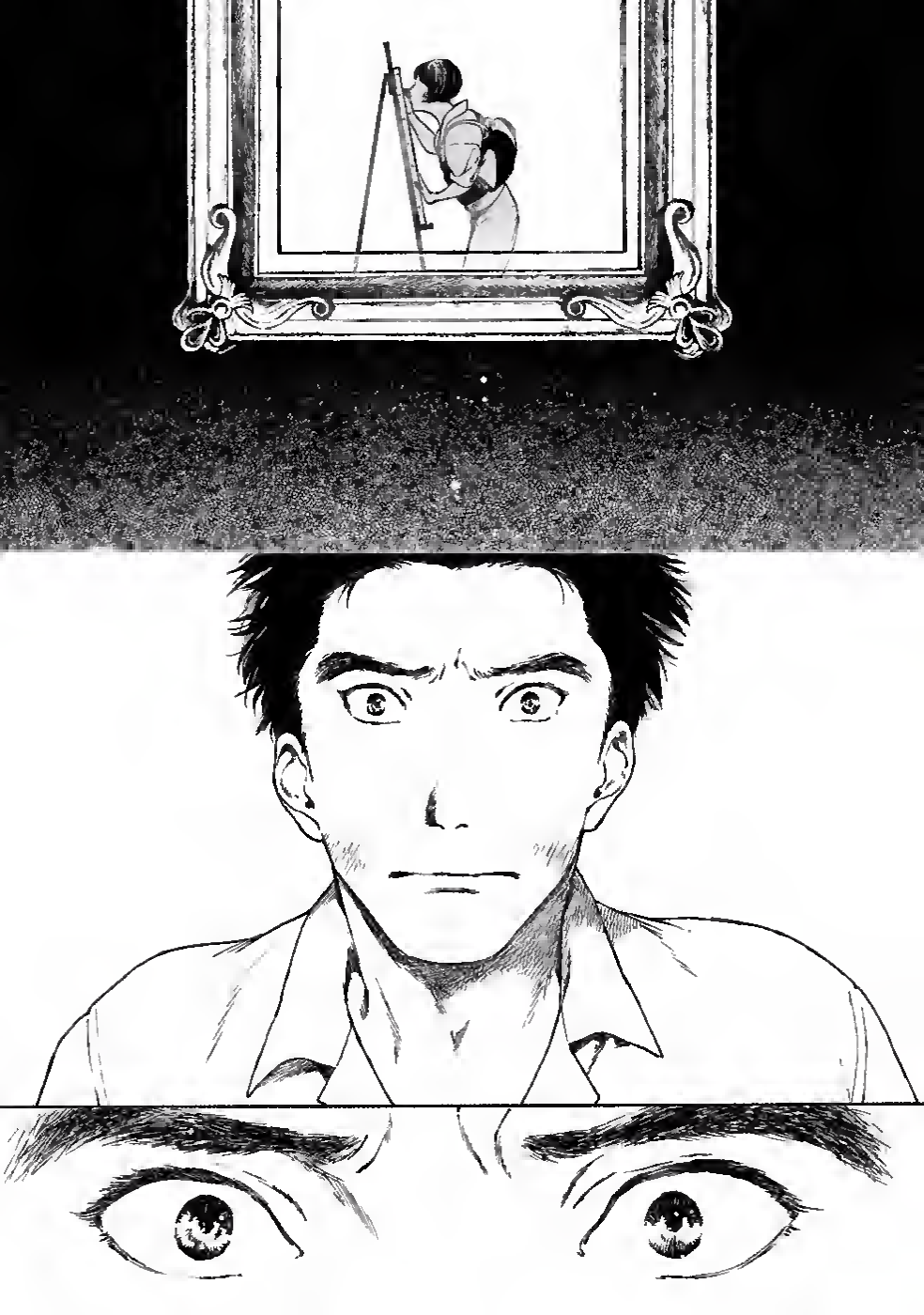
BUT DIDN'T THEY SAY
THAT THE OLD MAN HAD GONE BLIND THESE LAST FEW YEARS?
The one who's lying——
CRACKLE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
CRACKLE
POP
POP

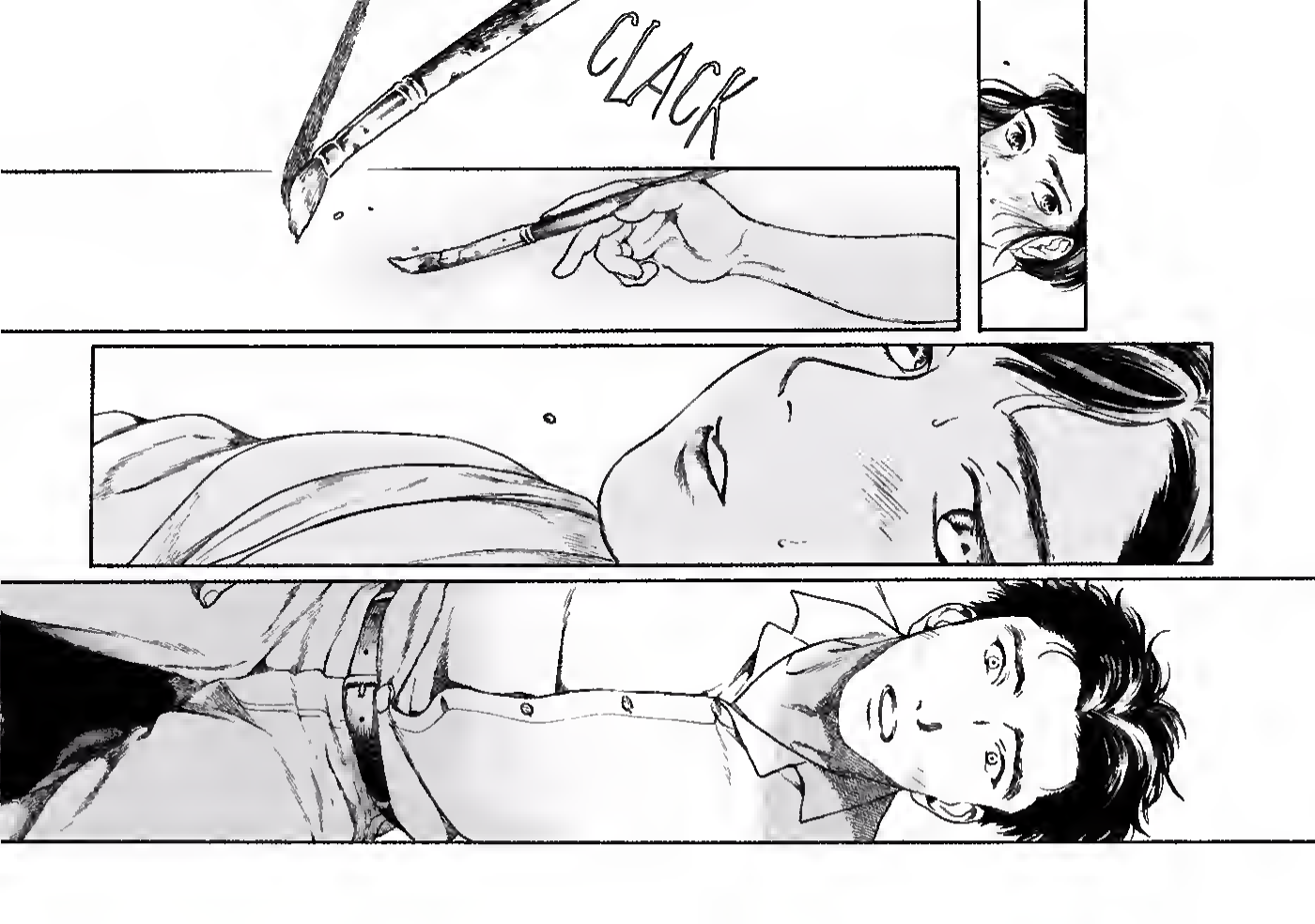
POP
CRACKLE
HAA
YOU IDIOT! DON'T!
I COULD SAY THE SAME THING!
PUSH
roll
REALLY MAKE THAT PAINTING?
DID MASTER JUAN
HAA

"JUAN"
IS BOTH HIM AND ME.
AN ALIAS FOR THE WORKS WE MADE TOGETHER
"TOMISATO JUAN" ISN'T REAL
AFTER HE COULDN'T PAINT ANY-MORE,
YOU DID IT ALONE.
...SO
YOU PAINTED IT, RIGHT?

I'LL PAY YOU FOR THE FRAME.
THE PRICE DOESN'T MATTER JUST PLEASE, TAKE THE FRAME AND THE PAINTING AND THIS ENTIRE CONVERSATION AND BURN THEM ALL.
I DON'T WANT YOUR MONEY.
TONIGHT.

SHOW ME WHAT YOU CAN DO.
tug



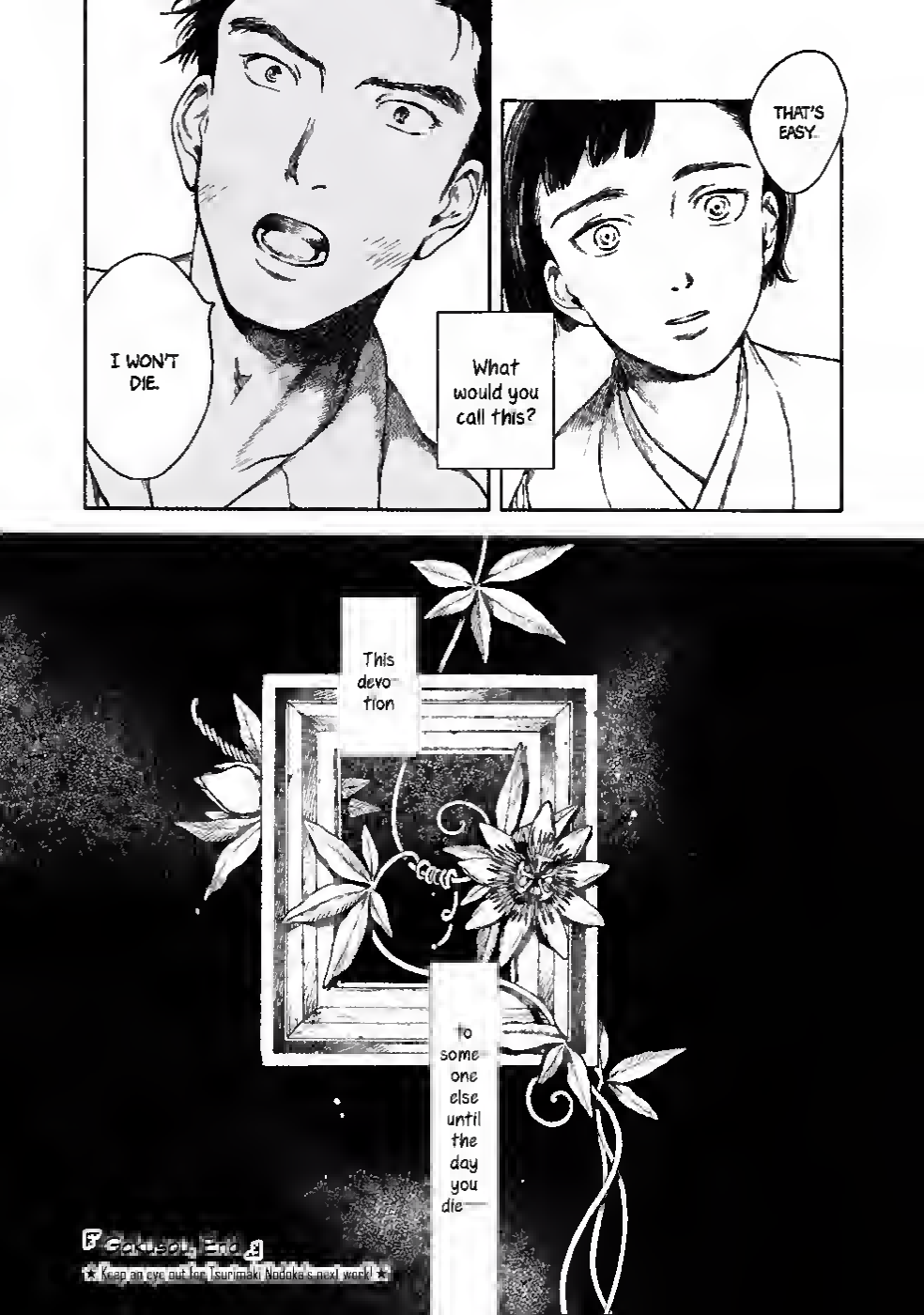

CLACK

KEEP GOING.
YOU LET ME SEE THAT PAINTING.
YOU WANT TO, RIGHT?
IF YOU WANTED TO KEEP IT A SECRET, THEN YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE LET ANYONE SEE IT.
THAT'S THE TRUE NATURE OF AN ARTIST.

I JUST WANTED ONE PERSON TO SEE IT, THAT'S ALL.
LIKE IT'S THAT EASY.
THEN JUST PAINT THINGS FOR ME!
I'M AFRAID!
TO LIVE OUT IN THE OPEN LIKE THAT.....
I'VE GOT NO ONE I CAN COUNT ON!
...ENOUGH
"JUAN" IS GONE NOW

YOU'VE GOT ME.
YOU DO THE PAINTINGS,
FRAMES NEVER LEAVE THEIR PAINTINGS.

AND I
WILL MAKE THEM FRAMES. ALWAYS.
...AL-WAYS?
BUT WHAT IF
YOU DIE BEFORE I DO?

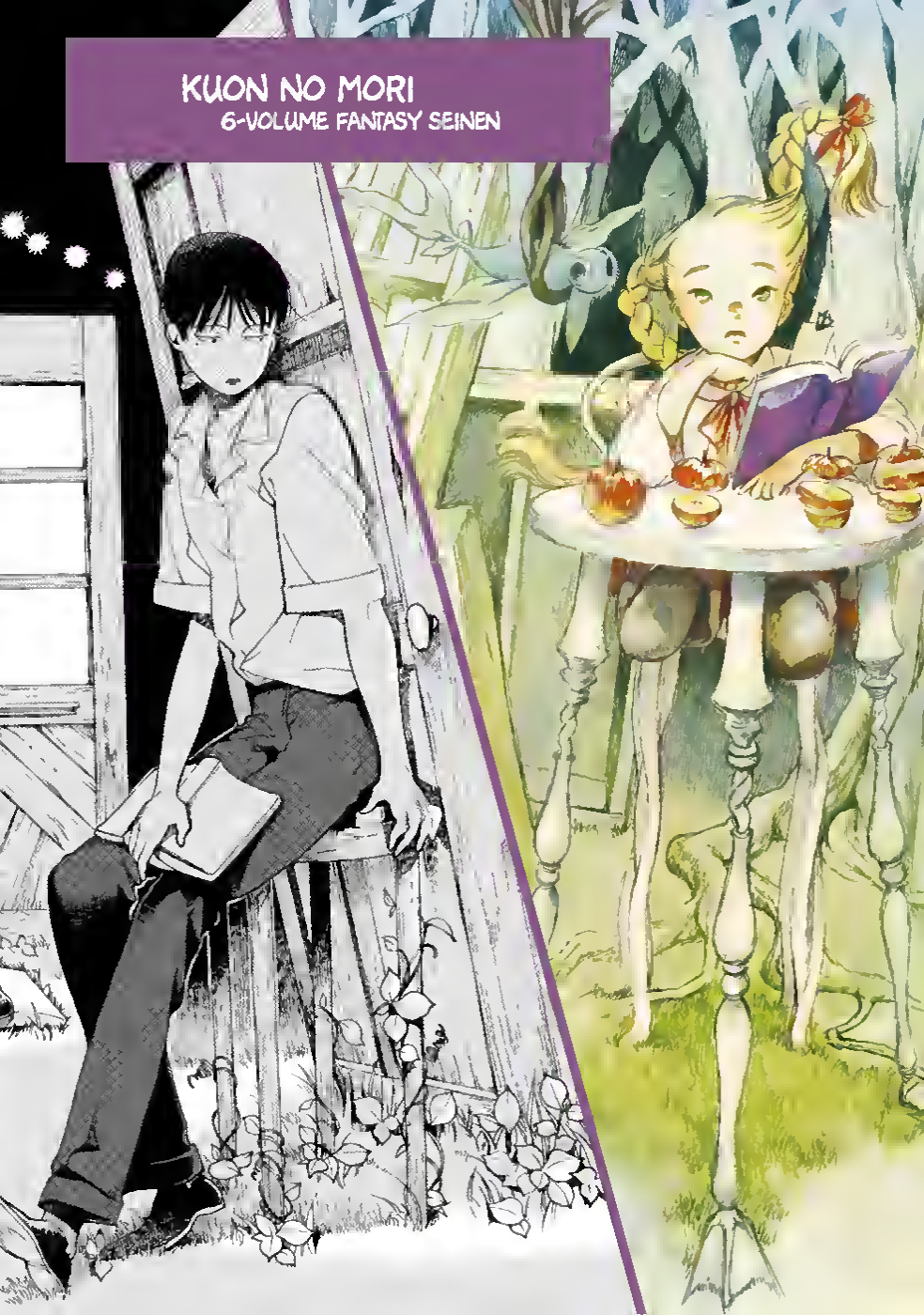

I WON'T DIE.
What would you call this?
THAT'S EASY.
This devotion
to someone else until the day you die—
B Good End 2
★ Keep an eye out for Tsurimaki Nodoka's next work! ★

TSURIMAKI NODOKA HAS PUBLISHED OVER A HALF DOZEN SERIES. THOUGH THIS RATHER OVER-THE-TOP ONESHOT ISN'T REPRESENTATIVE OF HER WORKS, WE WANTED TO RELEASE SOMETHING OF HERS TO INTRODUCE HER TO ENGLISH-READING AUDIENCES. HER BEST WORKS ARE NON-ROMANTIC FANTASY SERIES. WE OWN THE MAJORITY OF THEM, AND WOULD LIKE TO GET SOME RELEASED. IF ANYONE WANTS TO HELP SCANLATE THEM, DROP BY OUR WEBSITE AND TOSS US A LINE. LOVELYSTRANGEDARK.WORDPRESS.COM

THE FOLLOWING PAGES HIGHLIGHT MY FAVORITE WORKS BY HER.

KUON NO MORI

6-VOLUME FANTASY SEINEN



DOUWA MEIKYUU

2-VOLUME SEINEN FANTASY

MIMOZA KOUKOU BUNKASAI
3-VOLUME BIZARRE SEINEN COMEDY